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A

LAIN AND POPULAR EXPLANATION

OF THE

Nature, Varieties, Treatment and Cure

OF

HERNIA, OR RUPTURE;

ILLUSTRATED BY PLATES.

WITH AN APPENDIX

ON

MECHANICAL SURGERY,

AND THE APPLICATION OF THE VARIOUS INSTRUMENTS FOR

COLAPSES, VARICOCELE, PILES, CURVED SPINE, BOW-LEGS,
CLUB-FEET, AND OTHER DEFORMITIES.

By **S. N. MARSH, M.D.,**

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Deformities," of MARSH & Co., No. 2 Vesey Street, Astor House, N. Y

Published for the Benefit of my Patients. S. N. M.

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P R E F A C E .

THE object of this little book is to explain and illustrate the subject of RUPTURE, OR HERNIA, for popular instruction, so as to make it plain and intelligible to the comprehension of all. To this end, all obscure technicalities are avoided, and an effort is made to simplify the subject by explanations and illustrations easily intelligible to any common understanding.

The Appendix, introducing other departments of Mechanical Surgery, will be found equally plain and simple, so that the afflicted and their friends may profit by reading it, and thus comprehend their diseases, and understand the principle of the remedial means here proposed.

The surgical books are ample for the profession, but this little work is for the people.

The *prevention* of Hernia may often be secured, even in the predisposed, or in those exposed to any of its exciting causes, by a *Belt or Bandage*, or *Abdominal Supporter*, which should always be worn when in the erect position. To this, it is often useful and necessary to superadd a *Suspensory Bandage* for the *Scrotum*. The former takes off the weight of the *bowels* from the enfeebled muscles; while the latter suspends the *testes*, and prevents the dragging upon the *spermatic cords*. These means are often used successfully in *preventing Hernia* not only, but in the incipient stage, may avert the necessity of resorting to the permanent use of the *Truss*.

Hernia is frequent in young children, being often discoverable soon after birth. Its most frequent forms in infancy are at the *navel*, or at the *groin*. The former is called *Umbilical*, and the latter *Inguinal*. [PL. I.] In either case, the tumor should be forthwith returned into the abdomen, by gentle pressure with the fingers, and a *Truss* adapted to each peculiar case should be applied and worn constantly, until it is cured. If this course be not early taken, the disease becomes aggravated, and the tumor will increase by the child's crying, vomiting, coughing, or straining at stool. Dr. Marsh has always on hand instruments of the requisite size and form, for children at any age.

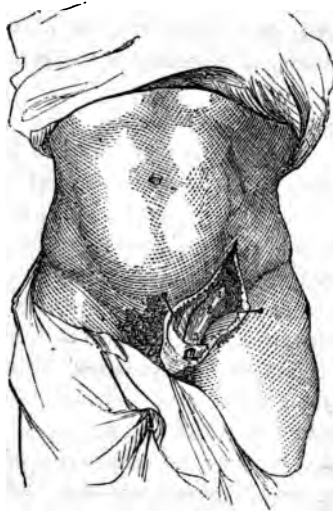
In all such cases, however, the *adjustment* of these instruments to each particular case demands the skill and experience of the surgeon, else they may be unsuccessful, and even mischievous.

VARIETIES OF HERNIA.

The *first symptom* of this accident may be merely a sense of *weakness or relaxation* of the lower part of the abdomen, on one or both sides of the body, in the neighborhood of the groin. At this time there may, or may not be, any *tumor or protrusion* felt, and yet, on coughing or sneezing, an impulse or sensation of pressure will be felt by the hand or finger applied to the point of rupture.

When the *protrusion or tumor is felt*, it will only be when in the erect position, and it will disappear on lying down, or may be returned by slight and painless pressure. It is then called *Redu-*

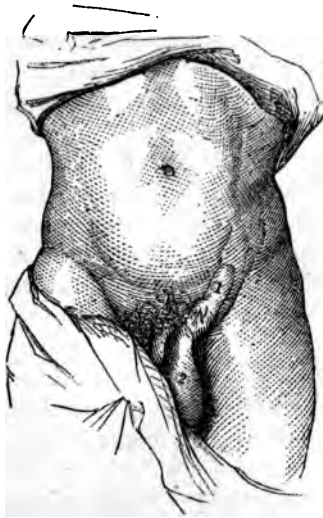
PLATE I.
ANATOMY OF INGUINAL REGION.



- 1—Inguinal Ring.**
- 2—Spermatic Canal.**
- 3—External Ring.**

PLATE II.

COMPLETE OR SCROTAL HERNIA.



1—Canal, distended by Omentum or Intestine.

2—Hernial Sac in the Scrotum.

cible Hernia, and the surgical adaptation of a suitable *Truss* is at once the only safe or reliable treatment. *Delay* in the application of the instrument for days, weeks, and months, because not at first causing much disability, is a common, but dangerous error, often aggravating the disease, and even rendering its radical cure difficult, if not impossible.

But in all such cases, if a well-adapted *Truss* is *promptly* applied, and *faithfully* worn a *sufficient length of time*, *Reducible Hernia* is susceptible of *radical cure*. If, however, the *Truss* is not surgically adjusted, or is worn irregularly, or dispensed with too soon, the protrusion will become greater, and the return of the tumor into the abdominal cavity may become difficult or impracticable. It is then called *Irreducible Hernia*, and is a much more serious accident.

The liability to inflammation occurring in the hernial tumor when *irreducible*, is in many cases a source of much danger, as it may become *strangulated*, and require a formidable and hazardous operation to preserve life. Hence the necessity of early and continuous employment of a well-adapted Bag *Truss* is imperative; the ordinary *Truss* not being applicable to the *irreducible* cases of *Hernia*.

The *Hernial Tumor* or *Sac* may contain *intestine*, a portion of which protrudes near the groin, on one or both sides, and when reduced, is accompanied by a gurgling sound. Or it may only contain a portion of *omentum*, which is the apron or caul which loosely hangs over the bowels, and in this case has a doughy, irregular feel, and is not so easily returned. In still other cases, portions of both *intestine* and *omentum* descend together into the sac, and the utmost care is necessary to see that *both* are returned into the abdomen before the *Truss* is applied. Or it may be found in the scrotum of males, having escaped notice while passing down, and when at the groin, and is then known as *Scrotal Hernia*. [Pl. II.] And it is called *Umbilical Hernia* when it occurs at the navel.

Thus far, only one form, and that the most frequent variety of *Hernia*, has been dwelt upon, viz., the *Inguinal*; and hence the protruding tumor or sac is perceived in the groin.

But the hernial tumor may appear lower down, and nearer the thigh, as in *Femoral Hernia*. [Pl. III.]

Femoral Hernia is the variety to which females are most subject, though sometimes found in males. It is important to distinguish it from the Inguinal, for the reason, that a pad of peculiar shape, and smaller in size, is required, differing essentially from that adapted to the other varieties.

[The accompanying Plates will explain all these topics to the most ordinary apprehension.]

In all these cases the protruding tumor escapes through *natural* openings found in the abdominal walls; but in some cases, the rupture takes place at other and various parts of these walls, and this where no *natural* opening exists, and is then denominated *Ventral Hernia*; or when complicated with the other variety, it is called *Ventro-Inguinal Hernia*.

There are several other varieties of Hernia described in the surgical books, but as they occur very rarely, it may suffice to say, that they are called by names indicating their seat, viz., Phrenic, Perineal, Pudendal, Vaginal, Thyroideal, Ischiatic, &c.

ANATOMY OF HERNIA, OR RUPTURE.

In order to have a clear idea of this subject, it is necessary to understand somewhat of the Anatomy of the parts involved in Hernia.

And first, let it be remembered, that the interior of the abdominal walls is lined with a thin membrane, called the *Peritoneum*, which incloses and invests the viscera or various organs; and when either of them escapes from the cavity of the abdomen, it must carry before it this investing membrane, so that the hernial tumor must in all cases be covered with the *peritoneum*; and this last constitutes the hernial *sac or bag* in which the bowel or omentum is found, together with the several fasciæ which invest it within the sac.

This fact is important to be understood, as furnishing the reason why the protrusion, when it occurs, should speedily be returned

PLATE III.

DOUBLE HERNIA, SECURED BY TRUSS.



1—Pad for Inguinal Hernia.

2—Pad for Femoral Hernia.

MEASUREMENT AND APPLICATION.

Send the number of inches the patient measures round the body in direct line of the rupture. State on which side ruptured. The convex pad to be applied to the rupture.

into the abdomen, and kept there by well-adjusted pressure. This delicate membrane, the Peritoneum, is peculiarly susceptible of *inflammation*, especially when displaced and pinched, as it is liable to be in forming the sac of a hernial tumor, or when pressed upon by an ill-adjusted Truss. A *reducible* Hernia may thus be converted into an *irreducible* one, by adhesions or otherwise; or, as in many cases, it may become *strangulated*, and a dangerous surgical operation be required to save life.

Strangulation is the term applied to Hernia when the sac cannot be returned into the abdomen by reason of a stricture having taken place at one of the abdominal rings, or ruptured openings through the abdominal wall, whereby the sac and its contents become choked or strangulated. Inflammation of the sac is the result, which spreads to the continuous peritoneum in the abdomen from the sac and investing membrane of its contents, and demands, when not otherwise reduced, the division of the stricture by the knife, to prevent a fatal mortification of the sac and its contents.

The signs of strangulation are readily recognized by *pain* in the tumor, more or less severe, and extending especially to the navel—obstinate *constipation* defying all the usual remedies—tenderness and soreness over the abdomen, great *nausea and vomiting*, which, in bad cases, becomes *stercoraceous*; that is, the contents of the lower bowels are ejected from the stomach by vomiting. If the operation be delayed, hiccup, cold sweats, enormous distention of the abdomen, and a crackling condition of the tumor, which becomes blue or black, precede a speedy death.

But the treatment of Strangulated Hernia is very often successful, and the necessity of a surgical operation prevented; provided its first symptoms are recognized, and a skillful and experienced surgeon is at hand. Bleeding to arrest the inflammation and relax the stricture, the warm bath, antimony, opium, poultices, tobacco injections, ether inhalations, or chloroform, may all be used, together with persistent pressure upon the tumor with the hand, called the Taxis, cold applications, &c. But such cases none other than surgeons are competent to manage safely.

This last remark applies to every species and variety of Hernia, which is very often obscure and complicated. Besides, there are several other tumors liable to be confounded with, and mistaken for Hernia, such as scrofulous, syphilitic, and sympathetic bubo; hydrocele, sarcocele, and other tumors of the scrotum and testes; varicocele, or swelling of the spermatic veins in the cord; the testicle itself, arrested in its descent from the abdomen, and found in the groin, &c.; and if so mistaken, all the efforts at reduction are mischievous, and the application of a Truss, in such cases, has proved dangerous. Hence it can never be safe to treat Hernia in any stage without good surgical advice, so great is the risk of a false diagnosis.

This will be more apparent as we proceed with our illustrations of the local anatomy of the parts involved. The anterior walls of the abdomen are composed of a succession of strong muscles and tendinous expansions, which support the bowels and other viscera. But there are several *natural openings*, the most important of which are made by the passage from the abdomen into the scrotum of the *testicles in males*, which normally takes place shortly before birth, or soon after, and is subsequently occupied by the spermatic cord in males, and in females by a ligament of the womb, which imperfectly fills it. There are two of these openings on each side, called the *internal and external abdominal rings*; and as one is nearly an inch lower than the other in the abdominal wall, the intermediate space is called the *inguinal or spermatic canal*.

Now, it is through the *internal ring* that the most common form of Hernia begins, called *oblique or indirect Inguinal Hernia*. [PL. IV.] A knuckle of intestine or omentum escapes through this ring into the *canal*, and produces what is called *concealed Inguinal Hernia*. At this stage, if then diagnosticated, every case would admit of an early and radical cure by an appropriate Truss. But as this canal leads from the internal ring to the external, the protruding portion of the bowel soon advances to the latter, and passing through this *external ring*, the tumor presents itself in the groin, and is then called oblique or indirect Inguinal Hernia; in contradistinction from that form in which the hernial tumor escapes im-

PLATE IV.
INCOMPLETE HERNIA.



- 1—Hernial Sac, escaping through Internal Ring.**
2—Spermatic Canal.
3—External Ring.



mediately through the *external* ring, without passing through the spermatic canal, and is hence known as *direct*, or *ventro-Inguinal* Hernia. These distinctions are important.

Unless reduction is now made, and the whole contents of the sac be kept within the abdomen by a suitable Truss, the hernial tumor will descend into the scrotum, and greatly incommode the patient. This constitutes *complete* Hernia, called also, *Scrotal* or *Bubonocle* in the surgical books. The risk of the tumor becoming *irreducible*, or *strangulated*, is then greatly increased.

It is to prevent this result that all surgeons advise in every case of Inguinal Hernia, a Truss should be applied as early as possible, and persisted in as long as there is the least disposition in the tumor to descend.

The proper adjustment of a Truss is itself an *Art*, requiring both science and skill. The distinction as to the true character of the Hernia in any given case, and the precise stage it has reached, is the only safe guide in selecting the instrument, and in estimating not only the *degree* of pressure, but the *direction* in which the pressure is to be made. So, also, the *size* and *form* of the *pad*, whether *larger* or *smaller*, whether *convex* or *concave*, *harder* or *softer*, and whether fitted with a spring of *more* or *less* elasticity, are all questions demanding tact, only to be acquired by experience.

To illustrate this, suppose incipient, or what is called *concealed* Hernia, to be detected, and that the tumor has only passed through the *internal* ring and entered the spermatic *canal*, but has not reached the *external* ring. It must be obvious that the true indications of treatment are, after returning the tumor into the abdomen, to apply the pad of the Truss high up, so as to close the internal ring and make pressure upon the canal, thus preventing any approach to the external ring.

If a Truss be applied which only closes the *external* ring in such a case, the hernial tumor will still occupy a portion of the canal, and by distending it, enlarge it, so that complete reduction of the sac is never attained when in an erect position; and it can be sensibly felt on exercise, coughing or sneezing, to come down as far as the point of pressure by the instrument.

This is precisely what occurs in a multitude of cases, and explains why it is that the profession and the public have for centuries regarded the Truss as a mere *palliative*, and not looked to this instrument for a *cure*. Modern science has proved, however, that in a majority of cases, a *radical and permanent cure* may be effected by the Truss alone, if early and skillfully applied, and modified as occasion may require.

If a Truss be unskillfully applied, as is very frequently done, so as to press upon the *pubic* bone, there is danger that the veins of the spermatic cord may be obstructed, and *varicocele* be thus produced. So, also, this erroneous adjustment of the Truss by pressure upon the nerves of the spermatic cord may disable the testes, and thus impotence often results. Hence, the importance of surgical tact and experience in adapting the Truss to every individual case, and changing or modifying it as circumstances may demand.

It is to the attainment of this desirable object, a *radical and permanent cure of Hernia*, that so many eminent surgeons all over the world have been employed in devising ingenious operations for the purpose, by the use of blocks, needles, scalpels, bistouries, setons, injections, &c., the design of which is, in all cases, to close the canal between the internal and external ring, thus rendering any descent of the hernial tumor impossible.

All these operations have been tried, and most of them have succeeded in isolated cases; but, though not devoid of danger, the failures have been numerous, and these latter have not been reported with as much fidelity as the rare instances of success. Still, however, none of these operations have been sanctioned by the highest surgical authorities, many of which, indeed, condemn them as neither reliable nor safe, and hence very few surgeons consent to perform them, and they are rarely undertaken. Although there may be cases of Hernia which, from their severe and complicated character, may justify their repetition.

But if their purpose and design be to close the canal, and thus present a mechanical barrier to the descent of the Hernia, we submit with all deference, that their object, viz., closing the spermatic

PLATE V.
SINGLE INGUINAL HERNIA.



1—Radical Cure Truss applied.

DIRECTION FOR MEASUREMENT AND MODE OF APPLICATION.

Send the number of inches the patient measures round the body in line of the rug
The Truss to be applied from the opposite side. State right or left side.

canal, can be gained by uniform pressure with a well-adjusted Truss. We have proved in very many examples, that sufficient pressure may be made on this canal, and can be readily borne, as to excite inflammation and adhesion, thus keeping the Hernia within the internal ring, and wholly dispensing with any Truss thereafter. Our success in thus permanently curing our patients has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of their own surgeons, and we are ready to repeat the demonstration before medical men, individually or collectively, they diagnosing and selecting cases of recent Hernia, of the Oblique or indirect Inguinal variety, in persons of good constitution and habits, who are otherwise in fair health.

For this express purpose, we have devised and constructed an improved instrument, which we call a Radical Cure Truss, and which, after undergoing the scrutiny of our brethren of the medical profession for many years, including among them our most distinguished surgeons, we may boldly say, has defied all competition, and established for itself a decided preference throughout our whole country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and this with the medical profession as well as the public. [PL. V.]

The peculiarities of the author's Radical Cure Truss may be seen as applied in the accompanying Plate, and on the cover. The pad consists of an *oval ring*, so adapted as to close both the internal and external ring by the pressure of its extremities, when immovably fixed in its oblique position in the groin. Its intermediate space, which is precisely over the canal, admits of a round or oval ball or pad, which loosely occupies it, and is made to press directly upon the canal, by a small and separate spring, to which a screw is adapted, and thus the degree of pressure may be graduated with absolute certainty, and increased or diminished at pleasure, by the patient himself, and this without interfering with the oval ring, which maintains its position, preventing any protrusion.

By these improvements on the old Trusses so long employed by his father, and since by himself for nearly a quarter of a century, the author is persuaded, that instead of being able to boast an occasional permanent cure, as was now and then effected by the old

instruments, this Radical Cure Truss is capable of making such cures the *rule* instead of the exception. And surely, if the necessity for the *surgical operations* proposed for the same object can be averted by this mechanical means, few will voluntarily undergo, and fewer still will perform them.

At the "Great Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations," held in 1854, in the Crystal Palace built in New York, for that purpose, the author received the Prize Medal for the superiority of this Truss over all others in competition. This honorable award was made by the Committee of Judges on Surgical Improvements, &c., consisting of such men as Professors Parker, Carnochan, and their professional associates. Similar honorable testimonials of merit in the form of the highest premiums, diplomas, *medals of silver and gold, &c.*, have been bestowed upon this *Radical Cure Truss* at the various Exhibitions held by the American Institute, at New York, and by the Judges at the various Fairs of Agricultural and Mechanical State Societies, Institutes, &c., all over the country, and this for a series of years. And Dr. Marsh has the privilege expressly granted him of referring all inquirers to many of the most eminent Professors and Surgeons connected with the Medical Colleges of the United States.

APPENDIX.

PROLAPSUS UTERI, OR FALLING OF THE WOMB.

THE extensive prevalence of *Womb Diseases* is the bane of our female population, and has called forth the sympathy and remedial ingenuity of medical men everywhere. It has been often said that "Woman has but one organ, and that is the *Womb*," all the other organs sympathizing when this suffers, especially by displacements, now so sadly frequent. This organ may suffer by simple *prolapsus*, or by what is called *anteversion* or *retroversion*. Either form requires skillful and experienced medical treatment in many cases, both local and constitutional, and this belongs to the physician and surgeon who cultivates the Obstetric department. But there are very numerous cases in which a resort to mechanical support becomes imperative, as when the indication is to take off the pressure of the intestines and other viscera, which is best effected by an instrument called "*Utero-Abdominal Supporter*," a form of which has been devised by the author, which has been extensively patronized by the profession, and is now very generally preferred to all others by a multitude of ladies who use it with uniform success. By the aid of this Supporter, the medication prescribed is often rendered successful.

Prolapsus of the Womb, in its earlier stages, is often curable by the Supporter alone, although another instrument, called a *Pessary*, may be superadded, if the perineal strap and cushion attached

to the Supporter be insufficient. A variety of Pessaries for internal support, in protracted and chronic prolapsus, have been devised, which may be adapted to each case, either by Dr. Marsh himself, or when preferred, by a competent female in attendance, acting under his supervision.

The accompanying Plate graphically represents the peculiarities of this Utero-Abdominal Supporter, which differs from many in use, and will be found to possess advantages over them all. The two front pads, one above each groin, exert pressure inwards and upwards, so as to lift up and sustain the weight of the intestines, &c., from interfering with the disabled organ by gravity. The spring which encircles the body terminates behind, in two pads or cushions, resting on each side of the spinal column, instead of pressing upon the vertebræ. The degree of pressure is graduated so as to suit each case, and can be worn without interfering with locomotion. Many bedridden persons are enabled to walk with facility immediately on the adaptation of the instrument. Let a medical man adjust the instrument in every instance.

In many cases of advanced pregnancy, the abdominal enlargement becomes inordinate, so as to hinder locomotion; and in some cases is intolerable, being a source of pain, and even of hazard. An elastic bandage or belt, supporting the burden without any undue pressure, has been adapted, to relieve such cases; and these, of every size, can be had from Dr. Marsh, at his office, where a lady in attendance will select and apply them, or render this service at the patient's house if it is preferred. [PL. VI.]

MALFORMATION OF THE CHEST AND CURVATURES OF THE SPINE. [PL. VII.]

Children are often born with defects in the bony structures of the body, which demand, for the prevention of permanent deformity, that in addition to the dietetic and medical treatment, some artificial or mechanical support should be employed as auxiliary to free respiration and exercise in the open air, which are essentials to recovery. If the bones of the chest or spine are the seat of this defective structure, either visible soon after birth, or super-

PLATE VI.

ELASTIC SUPPORTER,

USED IN PREGNANCY AND ABDOMINAL TUMORS.



For size, measure around the body at 1, 2, and 3.

PLATE VII.

APPARATUS APPLIED FOR CURVATURE OF THE SPINE.



DEFORMED SPINE.

RESTORED.



PLATE VIII.
SHOULDER BRACE.



FRONT VIEW.

BACK VIEW.

vening during growth and development as the young approach puberty or pass that period, artificial support by some mechanical apparatus often becomes a necessity.

Dr. Marsh has, after many experiments, so improved his *Elastic Suspender and Shoulder Brace* as to adapt it to all such cases. And it is equally applicable to adults, many of whom, without such support and relief, would be incapable of ordinary locomotion without pain and suffering. Physicians give the preference to those mechanical appliances, especially in children and youth suffering from spinal distortions and analogous diseases, which facilitate breathing, and allow of out-door exercise. Hence, the extensive patronage extended to this instrument. [Pl. VIII.]

VARICOCELE, OR SWELLING OF THE VEINS IN THE TESTICLE.

This disease almost always appears in the *left* testicle, for anatomical reasons. It may arise from any of the causes which produce Hernia, as elsewhere enumerated; but young men are most frequently its victims, because of excess in sexual indulgence, or self-abuse.

The first indication of cure is to remove the weight of the testicle from the spermatic cord, and this is best done by a well-adjusted *suspensory bandage*, which, if early applied, and the habitual application of cold water to the swollen veins be persevered in, will always arrest the progress of the disease, and often cure it entirely. But even in cases which resist curative means, the *suspensory bandage* is a palliative which renders the patient comparatively free from the suffering and inconvenience, and usually prevents any permanent disability which might demand the relief afforded by surgery, which is often hazardous, and sometimes fatal. The instrument should be worn perpetually, day and night, to derive its full benefits, and changed as often as it fails to bear the whole weight of the testicle. Cold water should be thoroughly applied, every night and morning, and all excess avoided.

VARICOSE VEINS IN THE LEGS, &c.

[PL. IX.]

This malady, often slight, and hence neglected, frequently becomes a serious and formidable disease, ending in dropsy, ulcers, and dangerous losses of blood from ruptured veins, which are sometimes fatal. This disease is sometimes constitutional, but occurs most frequently in pregnant women and old persons, in whom the venous circulation is languid, or obstructed by any cause. It may affect only the veins about the ankle and foot, but it frequently extends above the knee, and reaches the groin.

On the first appearance of this disease, the *Elastic Stocking*, made of vulcanized india rubber and silk, often succeeds in preventing its extension beyond the veins first involved, and effects the cure. But in any and every stage of this affection, this Elastic Stocking furnishes an equal support to the column of blood in the veins of the limb, and this more perfectly than can be made by any form of roller or bandage. Indeed, it invests the limb with an elastic covering, which becomes a substitute for the skin, this latter having lost its power to support the knotted veins without artificial and mechanical aid.

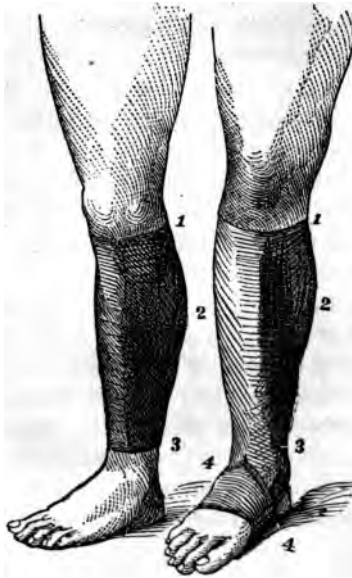
The exquisite material of which the Elastic Stocking is composed, is also fabricated into suitable bandages for the ankle or knee, when either joint is weakened by disease or injury; and likewise furnishes the best *Belts* for sustaining the weight of the pendulous abdomen in corpulent persons. All these varieties of bandages are on hand, ready for immediate application.

PROLAPSUS ANI, OR FALLING AT THE FUNDAMENT.

This troublesome disease is often successfully treated by astringent washes, cold applications, and other medications. But sometimes it resists all curative treatment. In such cases, very great relief is obtained by pressure made with a peculiar form of Truss and bandage, upon which Dr. Marsh has devoted very great attention, to adapt it to the use of female sufferers by this malady, and has been signally successful. [PL. X.]

PLATE IX.

ELASTIC STOCKING FOR VARICOSE VEINS.



For size, measure at 1, 2, 3, and 4.

PLATE X.
PROLAPSUS ANI TRUSS.



- 1—Back Pad.
2—Spring.

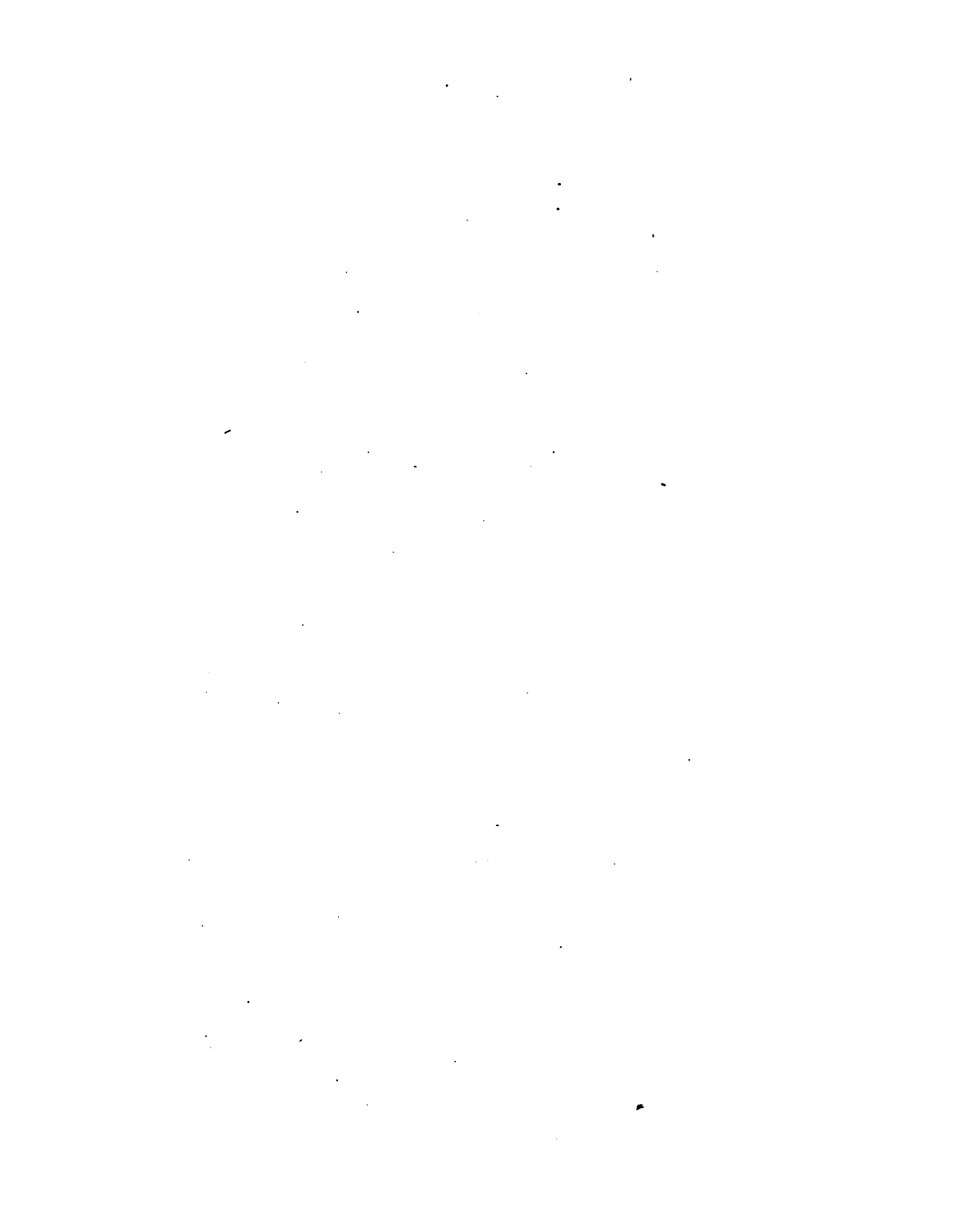
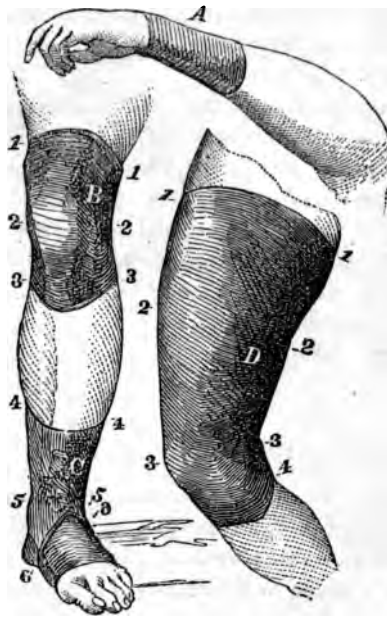


PLATE XI.

ELASTIC BANDAGES

FOR VARICOSE VEINS, SWOLLEN AND WEAK JOINTS.



A—Elastic Wristlet

B—Knee-Cap.

C—Anklet.

D—Thigh-Piece and Knee-Cap combined.

(For size, measure round at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.)

HÆMORRHOIDS, OR PILES.

This familiar disease among people in advanced life, especially if corpulent, is most frequently caused by costiveness. It consists in the formation of little tumors on the border of the lower bowel, near the anus. These, for the most part, are swollen veins, which become exquisitely painful, and often bleed. They may be *internal* or *external*, and when they do not bleed they are called *blind* Piles. In severe cases they often degenerate into fistula in ano, requiring surgery for relief.

These tumors often enlarge, and are complicated with Prolapsus Ani, requiring great care and skill in returning them, which is best done by ice, and other cold applications. Such cases, under medical and surgical management, are often cured.

But Piles often become chronic, and mechanical means have to be resorted to. A variety of appliances, adapted to both external and internal Piles, have been devised by Dr. Marsh, which only need a trial to commend them to all such sufferers by the speedy relief they afford. [PL. X.]

ELASTIC BANDAGES.

These, which are fabricated of vulcanized india rubber and silk, as described on page 36, see Plate IX., are adapted to swollen and weak joints, and are extensively employed by the profession, who daily send their patients to Dr. Marsh to apply and adjust them. They are represented on Plate XI., and are on hand in sufficient variety to adapt them to any case, and secure an accurate fit, so as to make pressure without impeding the circulation, precisely as in the elastic stocking for varicose veins. The early use of these bandages to feeble or enlarged joints very often succeed in restoring power to the limbs and reducing swollen joints, and prevent children from being crippled for life. Thus Mechanical Surgery, in this as in other cases, averts the necessity of painful and hazardous operations.

CLUB-FOOT.

In this deformity, so often found to exist at birth, Mechanical Surgery has achieved its greatest triumphs, and often succeeds alone in early and permanent cures. Even in those bad cases in which surgeons are obliged to cut one or more tendons, the apparatus depicted in Plates XII. and XIII. has afterwards to be applied and worn to effect the cure; and, as will be seen, has sometimes to be adapted to the ankle alone; while in others, it must be extended above the knee.

Dr. Marsh has every variety and size of these instruments, and has for many years been applying them with signal success.

BOW-LEG AND KNOCK-KNEE.

[PL. XIV.]

These analogous deformities have been proved by Dr. Marsh's experience to be always benefited, and often entirely cured, by an apparatus such as may be seen in Plate XIV. It should be applied early, and faithfully worn, taking care to have it fitted to the limb, so that walking may not be hindered, and yet all limping be prevented. To all such deformities, and indeed every other demanding Mechanical Surgery, Dr. Marsh devotes special attention.

PLATE XII.

CLUB-FOOT APPARATUS APPLIED.

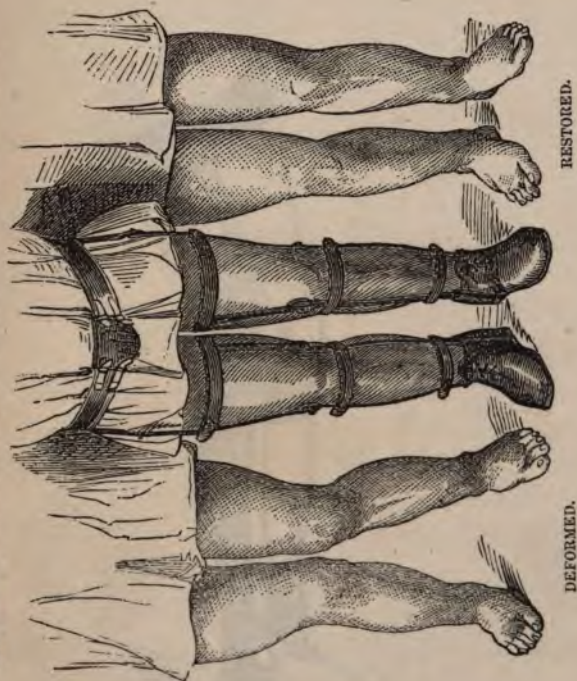


DEFORMED.

IMPROVED.

PLATE XIII.

APPARATUS APPLIED ABOVE THE KNEE FOR CLUB-FOOT



RESTORED.

DEFORMED.

PLATE XIV.

APPARATUS APPLIED FOR BOW-LEG AND KNOCK-KNEE.



CASES OF CURES.

The following is but a small portion of the number of cures effected by MARSH & Co's RADICAL CURE TRUSS:

Jno. Hastings,.....122 Franklin Street, N. Y.
F. W. Turner,.....Newark, N. J.
Wm. S. Green, ...Jersey City, "
Fr. Floss, ...104 Elm Street, N. Y.
Clark Rice,.....Watertown, "
Geo. Warner,.....Long Branch, N. J.
C. W. Barker, ...25 Pine Street, N. Y.
A. P. Troop, ...Cedar Swamp, "
N. R. James,.....Virginia.
Wm. A. Gregory, ...272 5th Street, N. Y.
John Kettleman,.....265 West 19th Street, "
Jonas Zoller, ...Frankfort, "
Thos. Agens, ...Newark, N. J.
W. T. Clement,.....Shelbern, Mass.
Lawrence Young,.....Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
J. Reeder,.....Easton, Pa.
J. W. Sagemen, ...53 East Broadway, N. Y.
E. Edwards,.....Connecticut.
John Kinnicutt, ...New Albion, N. Y.
A. C. Burgess,.....New York.

D. W. Gitchell, ...	New York.
Davis Thomas, ...	"
S. H. Martin, ...	Brooklyn, N. Y.
J. W. Collett, ...	" "
Jonas P. Boyd, ...	New Brunswick, N. J.
A. K. Grow, ...	Coneada, Allegany Co., N. Y.
W. Corning, ...	Webster, "
C. Close, ...	Pennsylvania.
D. Dawson, ...	43 Crosby Street, N. Y.
J. Snidiker, ...	Hempstead, "
Wm. Badna, ...	112 Broadway, "
J. W. Barquet, ...	New York.
H. L. R. Freeman, ...	Jersey City, N. J.
James B. Warden, ...	New York.
W. L. Knowles, ...	127 Fulton Street, N. Y.
R. Bainbridge, ...	Brooklyn, "
Chas. Hays, ...	Unadilla, "
J. W. Palmer, Jr., ...	Jersey City, N. J.
Z. Ingalls, ...	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Dennis Rice, ...	New Jersey.
R. C. Lawson, ...	New York.
John Benson, ...	Westchester, N. Y.
W. H. Benson, ...	"
F. Gegnoux, ...	Staten Island, "
Lewis N. Barlow, ...	Wilmington, N. C.
C. A. Runcking, ...	N. Albany, Ind.
Edward Bill, ...	119 Broad Street, N. Y.
Jackson Southerland, ...	Clarkstown, "
N. P. Canley, ...	36 Division Street, "
Theodore Wheeler, ...	New Jersey.
F. B. Chatwood, ...	Elizabethtown, N. J.
H. B. Lord, ...	208 Henry Street, N. Y.
M. Pettit, ...	119 Christopher Street, "
D. S. Applegate, ...	6 Courtlandt Street, "
J. H. Perurall, ...	29 Warren Street, "
J. T. Gleason, ...	West Washington Place, "

G. M. Whitmore, ... 68 Murray Street, N. Y.
 T. Smith, ... 5 Thomas Street, "
 J. D. Steele, ... 67 Wall Street, "
 Wm. H. Weed, ... Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn, "
 C. Cristy, ... English Neighborhood, N. J.
 C. W. Eastwood, ... 23 Park Place, N. Y.
 A. C. Young, ... 89 Wall Street, "
 Jas. B. Bird, ... 213 Fulton Street, "
 Thos. E. Lyde, ... Newark, N. J.
 J. J. Colvin, ... Coeymans, N. Y.
 J. F. G. Andrews, ... U. S. Hotel, "
 J. M. Palmer, ... Jersey City, N. J.
 L. Carey, ... 194 Grand Street, N. Y.
 F. S. Johnson, ... Clinton, Ga.
 W. D. Woodson, ... Thomaston, "
 A. Frazer, ... 13 Barclay Street, N. Y.
 Benjamin J. Harrison, ... New York.
 Amos Clark, ... Texas.
 Danl. B. Bruen, ... Newark, N. J.
 Jas. Rosenthal, ... 89 Chambers Street, N. Y.
 G. Fitzgerald, ... Nicauger.
 Wm. L. Miller, ... Great Neck, L. I.
 Jas. Buggy, ... 60 Barclay Street, N. Y.
 Oliver S. Fleet, ... 62 Maiden Lane, "
 E. H. Hadduck, ... Chicago, Ill.
 Chas. D. Crabb, ... Flatbush, L. I.
 S. S. Lee, (U. S. Army) Washington, D. C.
 Davis Calley, ... 323 West 22d Street, N. Y.
 H. H. Cohen, ... 554 Broadway, "

TESTIMONIALS, &c.

The following letters, voluntarily written and forwarded to us by persons who have worn the Radical Cure Truss, are commended to the attention of the reader, as evidence of the estimation in which this instrument is held by all who have used it:

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 18, 1855.

DR. S. N. MARSH, 2 Vesey Street, N. Y.:

My Dear Sir—I'm cured, completely and radically cured, of my Hernia.

About 27th November last, you adjusted one of your instruments to me; you remarked it would relieve, but you could not say it would cure me, as the hernial sac protruded through the aperture, &c. Of that hint I availed myself, and carefully adjusted the bulb over the protruding part—which finally disappeared.

How long it has been cured I know not, as I broke the instrument, and of necessity went without one for some days, when curiosity led me to have it examined by a skillful and experienced Surgeon, who pronounced it a perfect cure; and, indeed, every feeling indicates as much soundness there as in any other part of my person.

This rupture has existed for over thirty-seven years, and at the time my brother, Dr. Worster, of 119 Ninth St., N. Y., commended me to you, it was in a very alarming condition—far worse than it had ever been before.

Having lost a very dear brother by Strangulated Hernia of the same class, in 1847, my case assumed a more alarming aspect; and, believe me, my dear sir, language cannot adequately convey to you my sense of gratitude for this entirely unexpected result.

Hernia, in the opinion of many persons, is defiant of cure; but in this marvelous age of progress, those opinions must change, for it is being successfully treated, and that without resort to surgical operation.

Would to God I could herald the facts of this single case far and wide, till it reached the last of those afflicted in a similar manner—how soon they would avail themselves of your “Radical Cure Truss!” This Truss is the only model I have ever seen adapted to cure Hernia; and, I honestly believe, a permanent cure may be made in nine out of ten cases, as they run, if persons would exercise any exactness in the adjustment of the instrument.

Trusting you may live long—long to multiply the obligations and elicit the gratitude of multitudes, by the application of your invaluable instrument, with the above results—and long after, to enjoy a rich competency through the evening of life, is the devout wish of him, who will ever feel pleasure in promoting your interest, and subscribing

Your very much obliged and obedient servant,

J. RUTHERFORD WORSTER.

NEW YORK, Aug. 22, 1855.

My Dear Sir—About three months ago I was advised by my physician to procure from you a Truss for an *Inguinal Hernia*, being encouraged by the assurance that, with proper care, I might look for a cure in about a twelvemonth.

I visited you last May, and, in compliance with your advice, I took one of your *Radical Cure Trusses*, which I have faithfully worn until its further use seemed to me unnecessary. The *Hernia*, in three months, was to all intents and purposes cured.

I know you will learn this result with pleasure: in addition to the satisfaction you must naturally derive from every new proof of

the efficacy of your admirable invention, there must be to you an unfailing source of pleasure in the feeling that your ingenuity is affording daily relief to thousands of your fellow-men.

Allow me to conclude with my best thanks for your invaluable services, and with the expression of a hope that you may long be spared to those who need the resources of your art.

I remain, my dear sir, with sincere gratitude and unfeigned regard, yours truly,

A. PERRIN,

West Hoboken, N. Y.

To MR. S. N. MARSH, No. 2 Vesey Street, N. Y.

R U P T U R E .

A Truss which could be relied upon for the Radical Cure of Hernia, or Rupture, has long been a desideratum to the surgical profession, and the science and ingenuity of the most skillful surgical mechanics of this country and Europe have been, until recently, exercised in vain to construct a pad of proper form. S. N. Marsh, of New York, has obtained a patent for a Truss in which two pads, instead of the usual single one, are employed: one in the form of a ring, surrounding the other, which is in the form of a ball; the ring being for the purpose of closing the external and internal abdominal rings, while the ball produces pressure upon the inguinal canal, to create adhesive inflammation, for the purpose of effecting adhesion and closure; the pressure of the latter pad is graduated by a screw. By this Truss, the most obstinate Rupture can be retained and a radical cure effected in a time varying with the nature of the case. It has met with the unqualified approbation of the most eminent surgeons of this and other cities, and we are enabled to recommend it from a personal knowledge of a case of long standing, which was perfectly and speedily cured without inconvenience to the patient.—*Scientific American*.

This, and all other TRUSSES constructed upon a correct principle, are manufactured by MARSH & Co.; Mr. Marsh having twenty-eight years' experience in the manufacture of Trusses and

treatment of Rupture, to whom all persons afflicted should apply for relief and a permanent cure, at

NO. 2 VESEY STREET, NEW YORK.

Messrs. MARSH & Co., 2 Vesey Street, Astor House, N. Y.:

Gentlemen—I some years since had the misfortune to become ruptured on both sides at once; had a Truss applied by the direction of my family physician, which instrument gave me much pain, and seemed rather to increase the difficulty than to benefit it. After hearing of your "Radical Cure Truss," I called at your office, where your Dr. Marsh applied to me one of those Radical Cure Trusses, which I wore with ease and comfort; and I take pleasure in now saying to you, that I am radically cured by its use, which makes me feel like a new man.

Your obedient servant,

C. A. EDWARDS,
56 Broadway, N. Y.

WEBSTER, MONROE Co., N. Y., Feb. 9, 1860.

Messrs. MARSH & Co.:

Dear Sirs—On the 14th day of November, 1855, I exchanged with you for one of your Radical Cure Trusses, from which I have received a great benefit; so much so, that I am nearly or quite cured of Hernia. I have put it off once or twice for one or two months at a time, and it is now (for the last time) over four months since I have had it on, and I feel that I am cured, and hope that I may never see the want of it again. I mentioned these facts to an old gentleman, a friend of mine, who is seriously troubled with the same difficulty, of long standing, who does not get even temporary relief from any Truss that he has ever worn or had applied. He requested me to write to you to send one of your Radical Cure Trusses, according to the dimensions given by his physician, herewith inclosed.

Truly yours,

WM. CORNING.

ST. LOUIS, *March 19, 1860.*

Messrs. MARSH & Co., 2 Vesey Street, Astor House, N. Y.:

Gentlemen—Allow me to address you upon a subject which, to me, is a great source of gratitude, to wit: My son was afflicted with Rupture, or Hernia, and suffered with it much. I was induced in August last to make the trial of your "Radical Cure Truss," which was applied to him by your Dr. Marsh. I have not the words to express the gratitude I feel to him, in his having effected a cure. My child now goes without a Truss or any other support.

Your obedient servant,

JAS. PORTER,

Corner Fourth and Olive Sts., St. Louis, Mo

ST. LOUIS, MO., *March 16, 1860.*

Messrs. MARSH & Co., 2 Vesey St., Astor House, N. Y.:

Gents—After two years of practical experience, I desire to record my testimony to the surprising excellence of your invaluable *Radical Cure Truss*. I deem it an act for humanity's sake, as well as justice to yourselves, to give publicity of my case, that those similarly afflicted with that distressing complaint (Hernia) may avail themselves of your world-wide-known invention. I have long been a sufferer from a protrusion of the bowel, and have worn various kinds of Trusses, without effect, and my difficulty rapidly on the increase; and when advised to call upon you for relief, your Dr. Marsh gave me a positive assurance of a radical cure, which I had but little faith in at the time, my age being upwards of 45 years; yet I was induced to try your Truss, and to follow your directions. It now gives me great pleasure to state, that it has terminated in a happy result. I believe myself permanently cured, having no further use for my Truss.

I cannot forbear to express to you my sincere thanks, hoping your invaluable invention, together with your superior skill in the treatment of Hernia, may be duly appreciated by the public.

I am, sirs, your obedient servant,

S. C. DAVIS,

No. 7 Main Street, St. Louis, Mo.

CINCINNATI, *March 16, 1860.*

MARSH, CORLISS & Co., 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

Gentlemen—In April, 1856, I was advised by Drs. Mussey to call on you and be fitted with one of your Radical Cure Trusses. While they advised the Truss, they told me they thought, owing to my age, (being 44,) and my Hernia of fourteen years' standing, I could not expect a radical cure; but as I could get no relief from the various kinds of Trusses I had used, and my rupture, which was large and in the scrotum, growing worse every day, I called on you April 2d, 1856, and you applied one of Marsh's Patent Radical Cure Trusses, which I wore for eighteen months, (at the same time attending daily to my business,) when I took it off, (being cured.) After going without the Truss about a year and a half, I was accidentally ruptured on the opposite side, while the side which was cured remained cured, and is still sound and well.

I have had my case examined lately by Dr. Mussey, who pronounces it a radical cure. I am now wearing the Truss on the opposite side, with every prospect of a radical cure on that side also.

Yours truly,

JOHN BICKETT,
142 Linn St., Cincinnati.

UNION VILLAGE, *March 20, 1860.*

FRIEND MARSH—Your letter, requesting a statement from me of my knowledge and experience in regard to the efficacy of your Radical Cure Trusses, is before me, and I feel willing to say anything and everything which may encourage their use among the afflicted class of persons for which they are designed. Although I cannot say I am yet radically cured, yet I am much encouraged to hope I shall be, both from my own feelings, and from what I am told by those who have been perfectly cured with your Radical Cure Truss, and who insist that all that is necessary in my case is to persevere, and not be discouraged; that it must necessarily take time, &c., but that perseverance in the use of the "Radical Cure Truss" will be crowned with complete success.

Daniel A. Parkhurst, now in his 59th year, and a member of our community, and a presiding elder in one of our large families, has, according to his own statement, been completely cured of Hernia, of several years' standing; by the use of your "Radical Cure Truss," and speaks enthusiastically in its praise at all times.

George E. Seymour, formerly of our communion, now studying law in Cleveland, Ohio, has been also cured of what we considered a very hopeless Hernia, of both sides. This was his frequent assertion before he left our community, and he seemed to feel that your Radical Cure Truss was a physical salvation to him; and he might justly feel so, for previously to his having procured it, he was often obliged to take his bed for several days at a time, not able at times to venture any kind of exercise whatever. In regard to myself, I will say in addition to what has been mentioned, that when I have the Radical Cure Truss on, I am just as able to do any kind of heavy work as I ever was, and even more so, and I go into all such hard labor with more confidence than I ever presumed to do, even before I was so afflicted. I am sure that when worn according to directions, the Radical Cure Truss renders a protrusion of the bowel through the inguinal apertures absolutely impossible at any time; and this must of itself be no unimportant object, even towards effecting a final cure. There is another case of Hernia in this Society under treatment by you, but I am not posted in regard to the success thereof, and presume it has not been of sufficient length to present any important results.

If this will be of any benefit to you, I am sure you are welcome to it; and here I close with,

Yours respectfully,

O. C. HAMPTON, *Shaker*,
Union Village, Lebanon, Ohio.

To MARSH, CORLISS & Co., 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati.

MARSH, CORLISS & Co., No. 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

Gentlemen—I am very glad to have it in my power to state to you that my little daughter has received great benefit already from

using your Spinal Apparatus. The instrument is worn with comfort to the patient, and she is enabled to get about without any assistance, and with comfort to herself, and I have reason to hope she will, in a few months, be able to dispense with the use of any instrument. I take pleasure in recommending your Apparatus.

I have a case on hand of abduction of the right leg, from the knee down. Please make me one of your instruments to use in such cases, with joints, &c., as per inclosed measurement, and forward by Express.

Yours truly,

JOHN S. PEETE M.D.

Sharon, Tipton Co., Tenn., Sept. 1, 1859.

MARSH, CORLISS & Co., No. 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

The Apparatus for my little girl's legs has been of incalculable benefit. She commenced walking in two weeks after the apparatus was applied, and continues to improve—the knee being now nearly straight. Please put in a longer screw now, that will extend it full length.

Yours truly,

JAS. VANDIVER.

Guyandotte, Va., Feb. 23, 1860.

MARSH, CORLISS & Co., No. 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

Gentlemen—The Truss I procured of you some two years ago—for a patient—for the Radical Cure of Hernia, I am happy to inform you, has done all that was represented; in short, has effected a radical cure.

Yours truly,

JAS. SPAYTH, M.D.

Findley, Ohio, September 2, 1859.

CINCINNATI, *March 19, 1860.*

MARSH, CORLISS & Co., 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

Gentlemen—It is now two years past since I called on you and purchased one of Marsh's Patent Radical Cure Trusses, of which

I had heard highly spoken of. I have been afflicted for quite a number of years with a severe *Rupture* on my left side, and suffered very much at times; I was hardly able to attend to my business.

I had tried different Trusses and other remedies, but found no relief until you applied yours, and after wearing it for about six months, I felt quite cured, and left it off; but fearing that by some accident I might again be troubled, I put it on, and have worn it ever since, without any inconvenience, and would feel a loss without it. I am now quite well, and you would not know that I had ever been ruptured. I consider your Truss a great improvement, and the best I know of now in use, and would recommend it highly to any one afflicted with Rupture, knowing it will cure, if curable.

Very respectfully yours, &c.,

H. OPPENHEIMER,

At Lattimer, Colburn & Lupton's, 55 Pearl St., Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, *March 19th*, 1860.

MESSRS. MARSH, CORLISS & Co., 5 West Fourth St., Cincinnati:

Gentlemen—On the 26th of July, 1855, you applied to me one of Marsh's Patent Radical Cure Trusses for Hernia, of long standing, which I wore for ten months, when I found I was perfectly cured.

I have worn no Truss for nearly four years, without any appearance of a return of the disease.

I have been examined by Dr. Wm. H. Mussey, and pronounced by him *radically cured*, and apparently stronger on the cured side than on the other.

I have worn various kinds of Trusses, but would advise all persons afflicted with Hernia by all means to have one of your Radical Cure Trusses.

With many thanks for the benefit you have done me,

I am, very truly, yours,

J. G. BALDWIN,

At Homans & Co's, No. 13 West Third St

CINCINNATI, *March 30th*, 1860.

Messrs. MARSH, CORLISS & Co.,

No. 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

Gentlemen—On the first of July, 1859, Dr. Judkins sent me to you for a Truss, and on calling on you, you told me that my age was against me, I being then 67 years of age, and you thought a radical cure doubtful, but advised me to have the Radical Cure Truss applied, as you could thereby improve the case, if you did not cure it. I took your advice, and you applied the Radical Cure Truss, and after wearing it for eight months, I took it off, and have worn none since, being perfectly cured, there being not the slightest sign of any rupture now. I can cheerfully recommend your Truss; for if it will cure one of my age, it will certainly cure others, if they use it properly. I know of several others who have been cured by this Truss, who wear no Truss now.

Yours truly,

E. HARRISON,

182 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati.

AMERICAN HOTEL, MADISON, IND., *March 19*, 1860.

Messrs. MARSH, CORLISS & Co.,

5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

Gentlemen—Some three years since I called on you with a very large Scrotal Rupture, which for a number of years I had not been able to find any Truss that would retain.

You applied one of Marsh's Patent Radical Cure Trusses, and stated, at the same time, that you could retain the rupture; but owing to its large size, the length of standing of the rupture, (being thirty years,) and the internal abdominal ring being dragged down to nearly opposite the external ring, and my age (53 years) being against me, you thought I could not be cured.

I did not think you could retain the rupture, but told you if you could I would be satisfied, and not expect a cure.

The Truss retained the rupture perfectly, and after wearing it about twelve months, which cured me, I took it off and went with-

to work on my farm, but suffered no inconvenience, as the Hernia was perfectly retained.

The Truss does not rust from sweat, as it is neat and light, and far superior in every respect to any other Truss I have ever worn. During the last twenty-six years I have used a great many different kinds of Trusses, but, until I got yours, without any benefit.

I feel very grateful to a kind Providence, which threw me in your way; and you will receive my thanks for the information you gave and the pains you took to fit the Truss accurately to the parts.

Yours truly,

JOHN CARTING.

(Extract Copy.)

GOSHEN, *March 14th*, 1860.

MARSH, CORLISS & Co., 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

The Double Radical Cure Truss you sent for our patient has arrived, and gives perfect satisfaction.

We expect to order of you many more, as those we have ordered give such satisfaction; we recommend no other kind of Truss.

Respectfully yours,

DRS. LATTA & JACKSON,

Goshen, Elkhart Co., Indiana.

CINCINNATI, *March 19th*, 1860.

MARSH, CORLISS & Co., 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati:

Gentlemen—According to the advice of Dr. Fries, I called on you on the 27th of October, 1856, and you applied one of Marsh's Patent Radical Cure Trusses, which I wore, according to your directions, for one year, when I found myself perfectly cured of a very large Rupture of long standing.

I have worn no Truss since; and although I did the heaviest kind of lifting while wearing the Truss, and since cured, I suffered no inconvenience, nor is there any appearance of a return of the rupture.

Yours respectfully,

W. MENKE,

With S. Davis, Jr., & Co., 303 Broadway, Cincinnati.

MIDDLETOWN, OHIO, *March 15th*, 1860.

MARSH, CORLISS & Co., 5 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio:

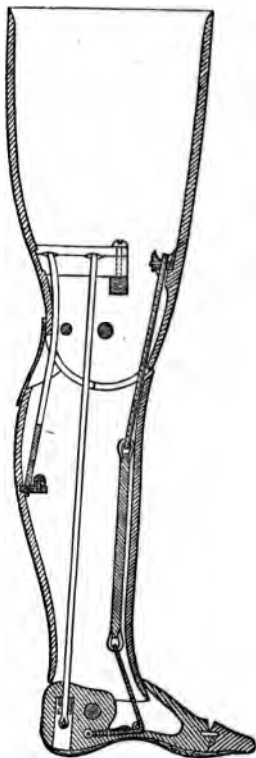
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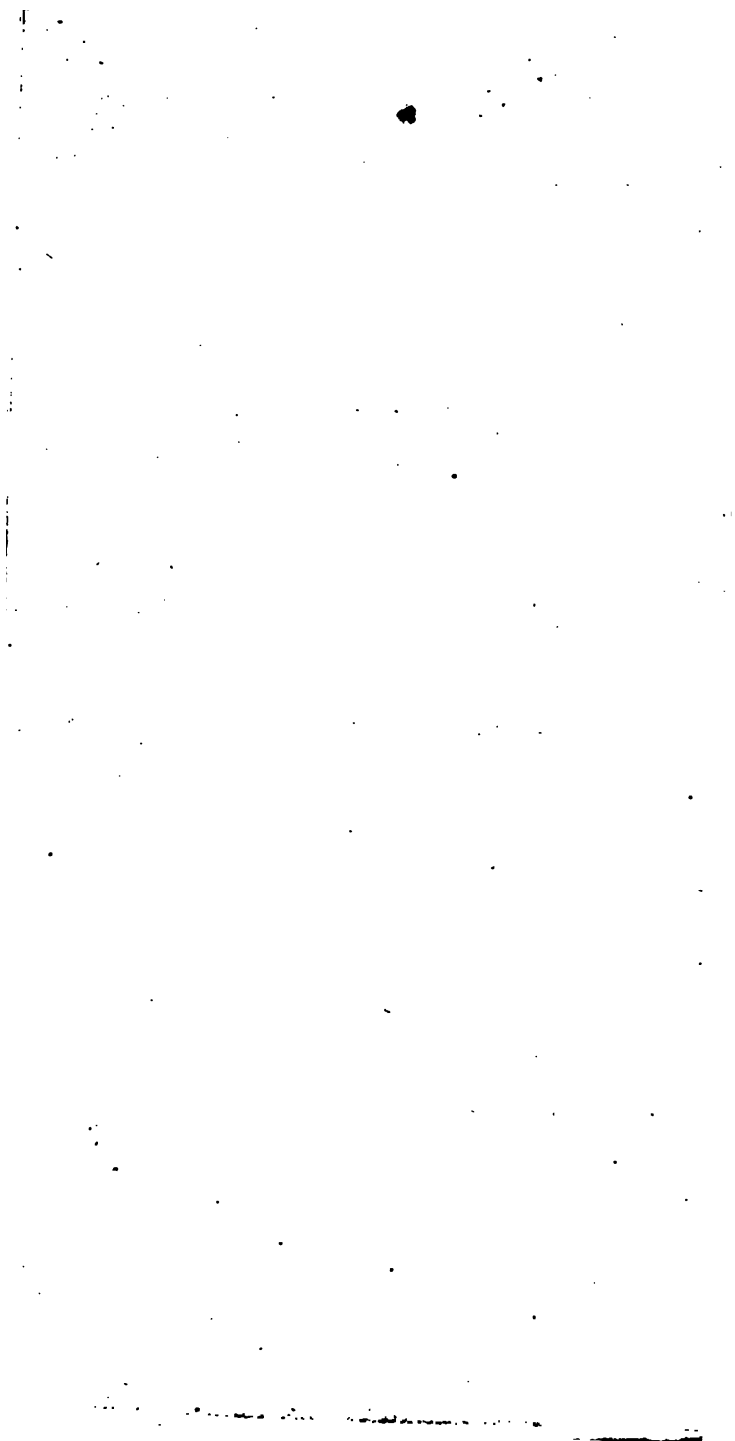
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